SECRET INVASION
RUNAWAYS
YOUNG AVENGERS
MARVEL
LIMITED SERIES
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TARNAX VII
THE FAR REACHES OF THE SKRULL EMPIRE.
MANY MONTHS AGO.
I STILL DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE, CHRELL. WOULD THE EMPIRE REALLY GIVE THESE WARLORDS THE NEXT SUPER-SKRULL TO RESOLVE A BORDER DISPUTE?
HE IS SOFT.
THE CHILD SHOWS PROMISE, FREMN.
HE CAN BE HARDENED, FREMN. NOW COME... OUR GUEST IS HERE.
GUEST? WHO WOULD--
YOU...
I HAVE NEED OF YOU, COMMANDER CHRELL.
WHAT? NO... CHRELL...THIS IS INSANITY. YOU CAN'T...
CHRELL, YOU CANNOT LISTEN TO HER. YOU CANNOT TRUST WHAT SHE--

CHOOOM!
FREMN WAS A CLOSE FRIEND. AN EXCELLENT INSTRUCTOR.
BUT HE WAS NOT A BELIEVER.
THUD
I ENTRUST YOU WITH TWO TASKS, COMMANDER, FOR THE GLORY AHEAD.
I NEED MY ARMY TRAINED.
OF COURSE. AND THE SECOND TASK?
WHEN THE DAY COMES, I NEED THE PRINCE ELIMINATED.
HE IS TOO DANGEROUS TO LIVE
THEN WHEN THE DAY COMES, QUEEN VERANKE, I WILL END HIS BLASPHEMOUS LIFE MYSELF.

EARTH.
NOW.
THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.
THIS IS BEYOND POOR STRATEGY. THIS IS AGAINST COMMON SENSE!

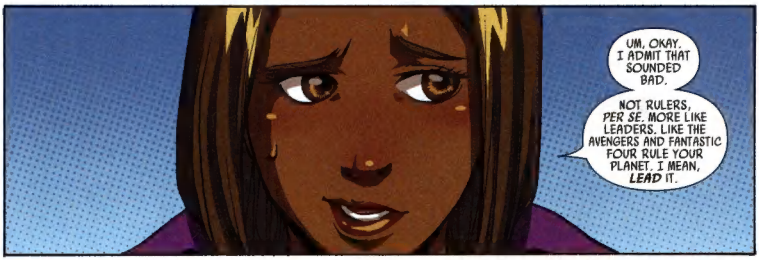
DUDE, COME ON. IT'S US.
COMMON SENSE DOESN'T EVEN ENTER INTO IT.
CLEANERS
AND THERE'S THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING! AND THERE'S WHERE THE FANTASTIC FOUR LIVE! AND WE BEAT UP A GUY ON THAT ROOF OVER THERE!
COME ON! TIMES SQUARE IS ONLY A FEW MORE BLOCKS!

IT'S CALLED HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT, XAVIN. AND IT'S ONLY FOR A FEW HOURS, SO KLARA CAN SAY GOODBYE. THIS CITY IS ALL SHE KNOWS HERE IN THE FUTURE.
WHATEVER! THEN WE'LL BE BACK IN L.A. AND OFF THE RADAR.
PRESENT.

CHASE, NO! WE BROUGHT KLARA WITH US FROM THE PAST TO SAVE HER, NOT POISON HER!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO FEED HER, KAROLINA? TOFURKEY? THAT FREAKS ME OUT. AND I'M FROM THIS CENTURY.
MOLLY... THE CLOTHES THE OTHERS ARE WEARING... THEY SEEM AWFULLY...
AWESOME?
SINFUL. SHOULD NICO NOT COVER HER SHOULDERS?

"HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT" HAS ANOTHER MEANING IN THE SKRULL LANGUAGE..."BEGGING TO GET CAUGHT."
WE SHOULD NOT EVEN BE RUNNING! WE SHOULD NOT HAVE TO HIDE!
HERE IT COMES.
UGH.

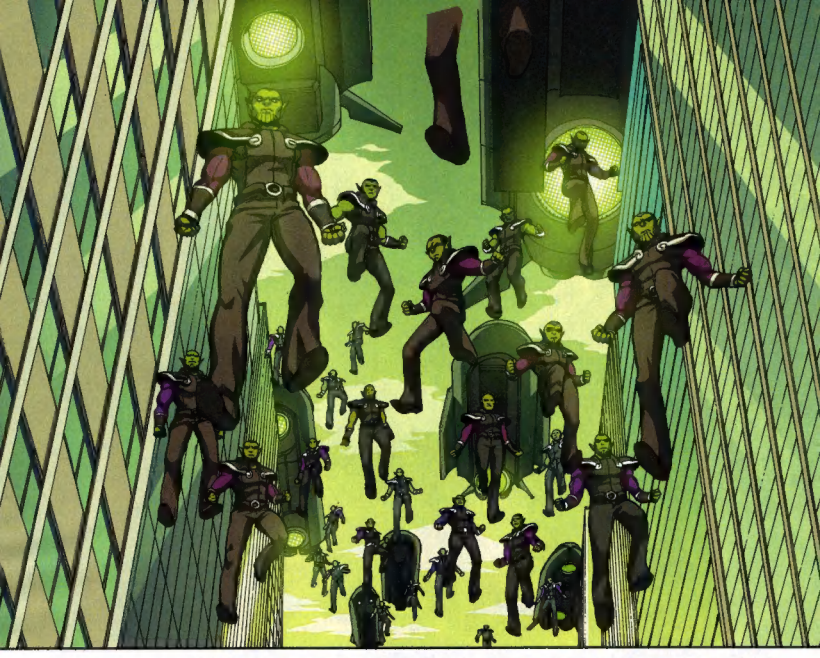
THIS IS WHERE WE SHOULD BE! IS THIS CITY NOT HOME TO EARTH'S SUPERHUMANS?
AND YET WE ARE FUGITIVES. WE ARE TREATED LIKE CRIMINALS WHEN WE SHOULD BE THE RULERS OF THIS WORLD!


UM, OKAY. I ADMIT THAT SOUNDED BAD.
NOT RULERS, *PER SE*. MORE LIKE LEADERS. LIKE THE AVENGERS AND FANTASTIC FOUR RULE YOUR PLANET. I MEAN, ***LEAD*** IT.

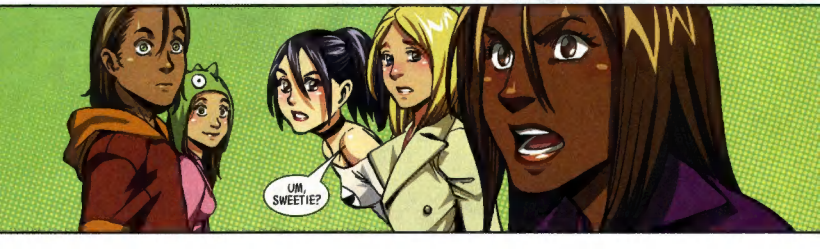
HONEY, MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST STOP WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD.
OR MAYBE JUST STOP TALKING IN GENERAL.
MOLLY...
KLARA, CHASE SAID YOU HAD TO STOP LOOKING UP, CUZ IT MAKES YOU LOOK LIKE A "*HICK TOURIST*."

I AM SORRY...I...I DO NOT BELIEVE I WILL EVER BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO THE WONDERS OF YOUR WORLD.
OH, SURE YOU WILL! YOU WOULDN'T ***BELIEVE*** THE THINGS I'VE GOTTEN USED TO. VAMPIRES AND GIANTS AND--
RUMMMMMBLE!

WHOA.



IT'S RAINING XAVINS!!


UM, SWEETIE?

AAIIIE!
CHOOOM!
XAVIN... XAVIN! SNAP OUT OF IT!
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT'S GOING--
UHNN!
WHAM!

SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY
Times Square
YOUNG AVENGERS! MOVE!
SPREAD OUT! PROTECT THE CIVILIANS!
WE'RE A LITTLE OUTGUNNED, DON'T YOU THINK?
WE HOLD THEM UNTIL HELP COMES.
GO!
NY TRANSIT
HEY, I THOUGHT THE SKRULLS COULDN'T DO POWERS! JUST THE SUPER-SKRULL GUY, AND HE ONLY HAD THE FF'S BAG OF TRICKS.
IT WOULD APPEAR WE WERE WRONG.
WOW. THANKS FOR THAT UPDATE.
TEDDY... TEDDY!
IS THIS ABOUT YOU? DID THE SKRULLS COME BACK FOR YOU?
I...I DON'T KNOW!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
POTENTIAL MATCH FOUND.
INFORM THE COMMANDER.

SHH...DON'T MOVE.
NOT...A PROBLEM, VICTOR...
NOVA ZOD GRAGEZ
NEX KAEMO ELLHAAZ!
NOVA ZOD EMMIMIZ
I NEED 23.7 SECONDS TO FINISH REBOOTING. THE OTHERS ARE STILL UNCONSCIOUS. ANY IDEAS?
ALREADY DID TELEFORTATION SPELL...
...BUT I'VE STILL GOT A SPELL TO STOP KAVIN'S HEART. ASSUMING SHE'S GOT ONE.
"WAIT FOR MY SIGNAL."
ZHHH OOH NEX ZOD KECE.

ΠΟΨΣ ΣΟΙ ΩΣΕΙΣ
ΠΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΣΙΚΚΑ.
ΝΝΝ...
ΩΣΕ! ΠΑΣΕ.

FWOOSH
HNN...
POP.

CHOOOM!
CHOOOM!
CHOOOM!
CHOOOM!
CHOOOM!
CHOOOM!
CHOOOM!
AAAAHH!!

VICTOR! HIT HIM WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?!
IF WE DON'T TAKE HIM DOWN NOW, IT WON'T MATTER!
UHN!!
NO! BELOVED!
VMM!!
VMM!!
VMM!!
AFTER ALL THE CRAP I TOOK FROM YOU!!
NICO, YOU MUST LISTEN--
VICTOR! NOW!
YEAGGHH!
NO...HNN... PLEASE... LISTEN...
SHRACK!!!

I WAS TAKING YOU TO THE LEAPFROG...
I AM TRYING TO SAVE YOU!
WHAT MAKES ME BELIEVE YOU LESS...YOU ATTACKING US, OR YOUR EXTENDED FAMILY PLAYING "SPACE INVADERS" IN TIMES SQUARE?
VICTOR... SQUEEZE.
YOU HAVE TO TRUST ME!
THIS TEAM ISN'T SO BIG ON TRUST, M BUTTERFLY. ALL YOU ARE IS ONE MORE SKRULL, JUST LIKE THE INVADERS.
YOU'RE WRONG, ROBO--YOU'RE WRONG, VICTOR. I AM NOT LIKE THEM. THE SKRULL EMPIRE HAS ATTEMPTED INVASIONS OF EARTH BEFORE. MY OWN PARENTS DID SO.
BUT THIS... THIS IS DIFFERENT. I KNOW OF THESE SKRULLS... THEY ARE RELIGIOUS EXTREMISTS.
THEY BELIEVE IN A PROPHECY, THAT EARTH BELONGS TO THE SKRULLS. THAT THEIR GOD PROMISED IT TO THEM, AND IT IS THEIRS BY RIGHT.
AND THEY'LL KILL EVERYONE THAT STANDS AGAINST THEM, HUMAN OR SKRULL.
FORGET EVERYTHING I'VE EVER SAID ABOUT STANDING UP AND FIGHTING. ABOUT CALLING YOU COWARDS. YOU HAVE TO GET AWAY.
YOU HAVE TO RUN.
BECAUSE THESE SKRULLS, THEY SEE EVERY SUPERHUMAN AS A SIN AGAINST THEIR GOD. THEY WON'T HESITATE TO KILL THEM ALL, EVEN THE CHILDREN. EVEN MOLLY AND KLARA.
THIS INVASION...
NO. IF IT HAS COME TO THIS, THE INVASION IS OVER. THEY'VE WON. NOW IT'S JUST A MATTER OF CLEANING UP.
NICO, I AM BEGGING YOU. PLEASE.
REMEMBER YOUR BATTLECRY.
"TRY NOT TO DIE."
...VICTOR, GRAB EVERYONE YOU CAN. WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE.
WHAT?!
KAROLINA WILL HATE ME FOR THIS.
AT LEAST SHE WILL BE ALIVE.

THEY'RE SKRULLS! AND I'M HALF A'ONE. MAYBE I CAN TALK TO THEM.
UM, BROTHERS OF THE EMPIRE!!
MY NAME IS HULKLING. I AM HALF SKRULL! I AM THE SON OF PRINCESS ANELLE! YOU HAVE TO STOP THIS OR--
MOST REAL ZOMBIE WIZARD CARRIER
THIS IS INSANE! WE CAN'T HOLD OUT! WHERE ARE THE AVENGERS?!
HOLD ON, KATE!! WE HAVE TO--
UHN!!
I'M ONE OF YAAAGGH!!
TEDDY... NO...
TEDDY!!!

PAUSE
FOR GENETIC
UNABLE TO IDENTIFY. SUBJECT'S FORM IN FLUX. DUE TO EXTERNAL ENERGY ATTACK.
MATCH PROBABILITY 57%.
EXTRAPOLATE
IT IS HIM... VIII, THE HALF-BREED
WE THEY THEY DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIM.
THINK THAT THE SAVIOR OF THE EMPIRE HERE, AMONGST THEM...
AN AVENGER.
WERE WORD PRESENCE ON EARTH TO THROUGH OUR ADA, THEN
THE ENEMY'S FAITH WISE TO
COMMANDER OF THEM ARE
IT MATTERS REGARDLESS THE PRINCE'S PRESENCE HERE.
"...OUR TO

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE DOING THIS, NICO.
PLEASEPLEASE PLEASEPLEASEPLEASE DON'T HATE ME, KAR...
Systems on-line. Warning! Multiple spacecraft detected. Identification: Skrull War--
WE KNOW! VAMANOS!
WHOOSH!!
THIS IS WRONG, NICO, AND YOU KNOW IT.
TRUST ME. I KNOW. IT WAS [redacted] DECISION, RIGHT? ERGO, IT WAS WRONG.
BUT OUR LUCK IS ONLY GOING TO LAST SO LONG, AND THIS...THIS IS TOO BIG.
XAVIN WAS GOING TO HELP, I SHOULD HAVE STAYED WITH HIM. I SHOULDN'T HAVE LEFT HIM.

I NEED YOU HERE, VIC.
REALLY?
DON'T GET EXCITED. IT'S NOT PERSONAL.
OH.
OHHHHHH, DIOS.

ARGHHH!
WHAM!
CASSIE!!
WE'RE GETTING SLAUGHTERED, BROTHER! YOU HAVE TO PULL IT TOGETHER!!
HAVE TO FIND... TEDDY...
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!
WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE HERE!
THIS... THIS IS...
THIS IS BAD. THEY'RE ALL GOING TO DIE.
I HAVE TO HELP. I HAVE TO DO--

OH, NO. NO, PLEASE.
NOT HIM.
FWOSH!!
YOU KNOW YOUR CHORES.
IF HE TALKS, HE IS YOUR TARGET. A TRAITOR. A BETRAYER. TREAT HIM LIKE THE KREE
PLEASE... THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING.
WHAT IS HE--?
WHAT IS HE HERE FOR?
UHHHH...
DORREK.

KILL HIM.
CHOOOM!
CHOOOM!
CHOOOM!
NYEAARGHH!!!
NO, NO! THE HALF-BREED, HE'S---

SPLASH SPLASH SPLASH SPLASH
WAKE UP!!
BILLY... HAVE TO STOP THEM...
YES, YOU DO! BUT FIRST YOU HAVE TO SURVIVE, AND THAT WILL REQUIRE YOU ACTUALLY BEING CONSCIOUS.
THEY'RE COMING, DO YOU HEAR ME? THEY'RE--
VRMMMM
THEY'RE HERE.
SHRRRRACK!!
DOWN!!!

UHHHNNN...
DORREK, GET UP. GET UP, WE HAVE TO--
DIE, SINNERS.
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE